

**RACIAL HARMONY TASK FORCE
HANDS ACROSS AMERICA
MAY 17, 2004**

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
445 WEST WEBER STREET
STOCKTON CA**

Janet Lilly	AACC
Dennis Lee	CVACC
Kaye Mooney	University of the Pacific
Dino Leonardi	COS
Josephine Weber	COS (Recorder)
Christine Tien	COS
Alicia Duer	COS
Matt Robinson	COS
Francisco Arce	San Joaquin Delta College
Diane Barth	SUSD
Nick Elliott	COS
Pennie Ruffin	COS
Sean Fenner	SPD
Mark Herder	SPD
Gary Gillis	SFD
Johnny Ford	COS
Anthony Bernal	El Concilio

The meeting began at 12:05 p.m.

1. Subcommittee Reports:

• **Food/Entertainment Subcommittee – Dino Leonardi**

Dino Leonardi, Event Coordinator, reported that the Food/Entertainment Committee finalized and sent out the letter and application forms. He provided copies. He asked that he be contacted with names or that committee members send copies to anyone who is interested. The deadline is June 15, but may be extended for late applications.

Mr. Elliott said that a group from UOP has been compiling verbal stories and histories from Native Americans, African-Americans, Italians, Filipinos, Japanese, Chinese, Mexicans, Hmongs, and Cambodians. These people could share their stories and also be encouraged to perform and/or provide cultural food for the event.

Ms. Barth said that they could be in one big tent so people could listen to their stories. She pointed out that in terms of money and numbers their resources are limited.

Discussion ensued on various forms of participation by the nine ethnic groups. Ms. Lily suggested grouping participants according to ethnicity and activities. A meeting will be held with the groups to work out arrangements.

Ms. Lilly said that the Storytellers' Guild should be contacted as they are professional storytellers and also asked what had evolved with contact with the Library regarding storytellers.

Mr. Leonardi said that the Food Committee is progressing, but is awaiting a budget report. He said that the Committee would eventually merge with the Program Committee.

• **Program – Teri Bentz**

As Ms. Bentz had another meeting today, Mr. Leonardi reported for her. The Program Committee has decided to incorporate four categories—education, recreation, entertainment, and food. Recreation would include games, sports activities, etc. Entertainment includes storytelling and comedians. Food must represent the different cultures and should include drinks, main dishes, and desserts. Education would include arts and crafts. He asked at what point the Committees should merge their groups.

Ms. Lilly said that there should be a group meeting related to logistics immediately following the Waterfest Event.

- **Publicity – Matt Robinson**

Mr. Robinson reported that publicity is stagnant. He said that there is a list of people that will receive letters, but there have been no pledge commitments. He said that money for postage has been an issue and they are also competing for funds.

Ms. Lilly noted that the Mayor and Doug Wilhoit have agreed to work on the budget and fundraising. It is hoped to raise \$40,000.

Mr. Robinson provided a sample of the “Save the Date” fliers to be sent out as soon as possible. He requested contact names be included on the list.

Mr. Leonardi said that anything sent out from this point forward should have the logo on it.

Ms. Duer observed that money must be raised before a commitment can be made for advertising on the media. She reiterated the comment that there is competing fundraising occurring.

Ms. Lilly asked if public service media announcements have been considered. She said that KWIN, for example, will do a PSA if the tape is supplied. She also said that banks should be approached because they have a mandate to put resources back into the community.

Mr. Leonardi suggested that people could be contacted for “personal favors.”

Ms. Lilly agreed, adding that everyone should personally contact two or three people. She said that she hoped this could be accomplished by the next meeting.

Mr. Robinson said that other events could be used to publicize this event.

Mr. Leonardi suggested putting a notice on COS employees’ pay stubs asking for contributions.

Mr. Ford said that he would look into the legality of doing this.

Mr. Robinson said that he would look into doing a presentation on SJTV.

- **Faith Community - Reverend Hailey**

Reverend Hailey was not present.

2. Keynote Speaker

Ms. Duer said that Jose Hernandez of the Astronaut Program is being contacted about being the keynote speaker by his brother, a COS employee. Arrangements have been made for Mr. Hernandez' flight if he chooses to speak. He will be coming home to Stockton in June.

Mr. Arce said that the week before the event Delta College has booked Ron Takaki, as keynote speaker who will speak on the experience of Asian-Americans. He said that he has been in contact with this person. Discussion ensued on possibly working him into the event schedule.

Ms. Tien recommended Maxine Hong Kingston, an author from Stockton.

Ms. Barth said that Ms. Kingston is difficult to book but an attempt should be made to contact her.

Discussion ensued on other possibilities and Ms. Lilly asked for a list names and the availability of each of six possibilities. She said that two speakers could be easily accommodated.

Ms. Barth suggested Delores Huerta and she said she would contact Ms. Huerta and Ms. Kingston.

Mr. Ford suggested Kevin Johnson, a former guard for the Phoenix Suns, who created an after school program for his neighborhood and a charter school. Mr. Arce said that he would help by contacting his manager.

Mr. Ford said that he would contact Mr. Johnson but he would like to know what to offer prior to making contact.

Discussion ensued regarding if the speakers would be paid and the amount. Mr. Ford said that perhaps a donation from a sponsor could be made to charity on the speaker's behalf. He added that he is personally opposed to charging admission for hearing the keynote speaker.

Ms. Lilly said that speakers will usually bring up a fee. She said that this could be negotiated after availability is determined.

3. Open Discussion

Discussion ensued on the importance of contacting all ethnic groups with nine having been contacted. She encouraged everyone to reach out to all segments of the community.

Speaking on the "Save the Date" flier, Mr. Robinson said that the Post Office has rules on what can be put on the back of the card. Ms. Lilly said she would like to see a contact name and number on the flier for those who are interested in participating and contributing. About 3,000 will be mailed.

Discussion ensued on available mailing lists. Ms. Lilly said that contact information should also be on a Comcast announcement. Ms. Duer said that she would ask Carolina Luces, the Mayor's Secretary, if the Mayor would provide information during his "Conversation" telecast. Pros and cons of including the flier in utility bills were discussed. It was suggested that fliers be distributed by cadets and placed on car windshields. It was also suggested that the banks be asked to reproduce fliers. Mr. Ford responded that copying is easy and he would rather ask banks for a donation.

Mr. Lee suggested putting ads in membership newsletters of different businesses.

4. Next Meeting

It was decided to hold the next meeting on June 7, 2004 at noon. The meeting was closed at 1 p.m.